to their offices within a specified peak period of two hours. Within these two hours, we cannot put in so many buses to carry all of them. This is not done in any part of the world.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN: Since human lives are involved, will the Government take care to see that rigorous tests are employed before a bus driver is certified fit to drive buses?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: It is because the regulations are very strict that many people who are drivers do not get employed in the City transport and other heavy vehicles. I think the present regulations are quite adequate.

Ceiling on houses

* 155 Q.—SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB (on behalf of Dr. A. Sreenivasan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the speech made by the Finance Minister at the time of inauguration of the Bhaktavatsalam Nagar in Madras recently, wherein he is reported to hav suggested a ceiling on houses: and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: (a) No such proposals are under the consideration of Govrnment.

(b) Does not arise.

Express bus

* 156 Q.—SRI J. PONNUSWAMY VILLAVARAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to ply an express bus from Tuticorin to Tiruchirappalli via Kovilpatti, Sathur and Virudhunagar?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: No, Sir.

State Electricity Board

* 157 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the number of posts of (i) Divisional Engineers, (ii) Assistant Engineers and (iii) Supervisors vacant as on 1st March 1962 in the State Electricity Board;

(b) the duration of these vacancies; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: (a) Four posts of Divisional Engineers, 8 posts of Assisatnt Engineers (Electrical) and 291 posts of Supervisors including certain Junior Engineers were vacant in the State Electric Board as on 1st March 1962, besides some other posts of Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers (Civil) in the project circles.

(b) The duration of these vacancies ranges from 1 year to 1 year and 10 months.

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(c) In some cases, the posts were not filled up as they were not urgent requirements. In other cases, the posts were kept vacant for want of suitable technically qualified hands.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, is it a fact that many people have been posted and they have resigned and gone out seeking employment in private firms?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I do not know whether they have gone out seeking employment in private firms. But they have resigned and left.

Scholarships

* 158 Q.—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the State Government has been consulted by the Central Government in the award of scholarships to talented young persons in music, dance, drama and the fine arts for training in India during 1961–62?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No, Sir.

House Rent Allowance

* 159 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to give House Rent Allowance to the teachers in the aided high schools in the City of Madras and other major towns; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) & (b) No, Sir.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : What is the reason for this unyielding policy of the Government in respect of this demand alone?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The reason is want of finance.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Even the lower division clerks in the City Corporation and local bodies are getting this house rent allowance. Is it justifiable to say that the teachers cannot get it now?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No grant is given by Government to local bodies towards house rent allowance.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Is it not a reasonable demand of the teachers in Madras and major towns?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Not only this. So many other things are reasonable. But the question is whether it is practicable.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS